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#### SIGNING OF THE PEACE TREATY.

The formal signature of the peace treaty by envoys representing Russia and Japan brings to an end one of the most destructive wars of modern times. One of the peculiarities of the struggle is that it was waged over territory to which neither of the combatants had legal claim, but upon which each had cast covetous eyes in the past.

As a result of the convention which has been put into effect Russia resigns her ambitious program of Russifying the Liao Tung Peninsula and Manchuria, with ultimate designs upon the "hermit kingdom" of Korea. Under the terms agreed upon Manchuria is to be returned to its rightful owner, China. To that extent justice will follow from the dreadful carnage at Port Arthur, Liao Yang and Mukden.

As a result of an unbroken series of successes on sea and land Japan secures the fruits of her victory over China many years ago and removes from immediate competition an aggressive and unscrupulous rival.

It is to be hoped that in the context of the past few months the Russian and Japanese soldiers have learned to understand each other better and that out of the mutual respect which brave men must feel for those whom they meet in desperate battle, will grow a more friendly feeling, and then out of the renewed and regenerated Russia which must come in the near future, there will come no influence which will threaten the good understanding which began Tuesday afternoon in the naval stores building of the Portsmouth navy yard.

#### TWO WAYS OF TELLING A STORY.

In speaking of Secretary Shaw's Roanoke speech in favor of a protective tariff, the esteemed Baltimore Sun gives a practical illustration of the fact that there is more in the telling of the story than a mere recital of isolated facts surrounded with one's ideas of what should have occurred. With a proper consideration for the little touches which lend an air of "verisimilitude" to a bald and unconvincing narrative," Mr. Shaw said:

"The late Mr. McKinley, while preparing the tariff bill of 1890, looking over the customs reports, discovered that a large number of pearl buttons were being imported. He made inquiry among his associates in Congress and learned that clam shells suitable for the purpose were to be found in abundance in the Mississippi and other rivers. Then he put a paragraph in the bill to this effect: Whoever brings a dollar's worth of pearl buttons into the United States shall deposit 25 cents in the treasury of the United States. Immediately some one established a factory on the banks of the Mississippi, and other factories were started, and now several million dollars are paid each year to labor as a result of a very small act of statesmanship."

Here is a plain and unvarnished statement of the facts involved, as set forth by our Baltimore contemporary:

"It appears that along about 1889 several wealthy gentlemen who had been liberal contributors to the Re-

publican campaign fund in 1888, and who enjoyed the confidence of the grand old party and possessed influence in its councils, looking over the customs reports discovered that a great many pearl buttons were imported from Austria. They formed a syndicate and went footloose to that country, bought all the pearl buttons in sight and contracted to buy all the output of the mills for six months in advance, then returned home and after their buttons had got safely through the custom house induced Congress to ordain that if any one else should bring in a dollar's worth of pearl buttons he should deposit 25 cents in the treasury of the United States. Of course no one else brought in any great amount, and this enterprising syndicate made a fortune. That is the true history of how that small act of statesmanship came to be performed. But this is not all. Other influential syndicates, later on, made contracts with four penitentiaries in the States along the Mississippi river for the convict labor and established pearl button factories within the walls, the laborer getting nothing, the syndicate getting rich, and every working man in the whole broad land who bought a dozen pearl buttons for his children's clothing was taxed 25 percent to contribute to that wealth."

Of course, worshippers at the shrine of McKinleyism will find it difficult to discard the Shaw theory. Men of common-sense and plain, every-day knowledge of how tariff bills are drawn, and the how of the way of many schedules concerning which beautiful fairy tales might be told, will have no difficulty in deciding which is the more plausible story of the two.

Kansas prohibits liquor selling and Kansas sends buy booze over in Missouri. Missouri prohibits gambling on horse races, and Missouri gamblers are coming over into Kansas to do their racetrack gambling. Dishonors are about even.—Topeka Journal.

It is said that "fair exchange is not robbery," but, considering the dramatic personae in the foregoing deal, it would be a reckless personage who would apply the old aphorism to the case in point.

A newspaper item records the fact that John D. Rockefeller has begun to wear a wig, and it is said that his appearance was so greatly changed that the usher at his church failed to recognize him and invited him to attend services regularly before discovering his mistake. Has the great Standard Oil magnate become so sensitive over the hard things said about him that he wishes to disguise himself?

A man has written a letter to the New York Tribune urging the abolition of the summer vacation for school children. It is strange how soon the average individual forgets that he ever was a child when he begins to grow an incipient mustache and has ingrowing ideas of economic problems.

That Norfolk soldier who cut a lady friend's head off with a razor has requested that he be permitted to have a work on hypnotism in his jail cell. Perhaps he wants to learn how to hypnotize himself into believing that he won't get what is coming to him.

Baltimore has a man who claims to have attended the funeral of John Paul Jones. Far be it from us to challenge the veracity of this gent while Virginia has in her midst so many body servants of the late lamented G. Washington.

The President in his great act of making the Russian bear dance ought to be a headliner on any vaudeville bill in the country.

#### Curious Titles.

The English reformers adopted some curious titles for their devotional and controversial works. "Matches Lighted at the Divine Fire," "The Gun of Penitence," "The Shop of the Spiritual Apothecary," "The Bank of Faith," "Sixpennyworth of Divine Spirit," "Some Fine Essences Baked in the Oven of Charity, Carefully Conserved For the Chickens of the Church," "The Sparrows of the Spirit" and "The Sweet Swallows of Salvation" are among the number.

#### Four Nations.

Practical idealism takes with the German chiefly the form of devotion to duty. In the Russian it is a readiness to sacrifice everything to his inward feeling. In the Anglo-Saxon it is the staking of the whole person for a concrete, palpable and distinctly fixed purpose. In the Frenchman it is a general idea which carries him away to great deeds.—Baron F. von Wrangell in Contemporary Review.

#### Summer Excursion Tickets via Southern Railway Now on Sale.

Greatly Reduced rates now in effect via Southern Railway to all summer resorts on its lines. Asheville, the land of the sky, and the beautiful sapphire country, especially attractive. Through Pullman service between Norfolk and Asheville. For particulars call on or write, W. W. CHOTON, Passenger Agent, Norfolk, Va.

#### "CUTTING OVER."

How Telephone Lines Are Moved From One Switchboard to Another.

"Cutting over" is the technical phrase applied to moving the wires in a telephone central office from one switchboard to another. If you will reflect that many of the switchboards of the type used in the Bell exchanges of large cities carry 9,000 lines, you will see what a task transferring such a mass of wires is. Indeed, there are few mechanical operations which more impress one with a sense of absolutely perfect forethought and organization.

When an exchange is to be "cut over," all the outside lines coming into it, both overhead and underground, are tapped and practically connected with the new board while the old one is still in use. That is to say, they are brought into the main distributing frame, which is the big rack through which the outside lines are separated and linked to the proper inside lines which run directly into the switchboard and terminate in the "jacks," by means of which the operator is enabled to put any two subscribers into communication.

The opportunities for confusion and mishaps in this work are evident, and it speaks much for the painstaking care with which it is done that a subscriber is practically never "lost," as the telephone engineer calls it, if one of the lines is temporarily misconnected. To secure such perfection innumerable tests are necessary not only of the outside lines, but of every switchboard line, and these are conducted over a long period so as in no way to disturb the service of the subscriber.

The operators are thoroughly drilled in the use of the new board, and when it comes to the actual performance of "cutting over," which generally takes place some hour in the night when business is always light, both boards have a full force to work them. The final step is to cut the old connections and complete the new ones at the same instant. This is usually done by pulling out from the board to be abandoned the heat coils which are put into every circuit in the distributing frame as a protection to the apparatus against an overload of electricity from lightning or from the crossing of wires, or what not, and simultaneously pushing coils into the mechanism that replaces it. So rapidly can skilled men perform the operation that one of them can put 600 or 700 coils in a place in thirty seconds, and the whole process of "cutting over" in a large office occupies not more than two minutes. There is no interruption of service, however, for one group of wires is dealt with at a time, so that no circuit is out of commission more than half a minute at the longest.

#### Does Family "Count?"

"I go a great deal on family," remarked the Ward McAllister of the community. "I tell you there's lots in blood; family counts."

Ab, does it? Abraham Lincoln's father was so poor that the negroes called him "po' white trash," and Abe himself was born in a log hut with cracks in the walls so wide that you could throw a dog through them, and his mother's name was Nancy Hanks.

The father of John Adams ran a corner grocery. John Quincy Adams, however, had "family" back of him, for his father, John, had been president of the United States.

James K. Polk grubbed roots out of a new farm in North Carolina until he got too strong to work for his father; then he managed to secure a job in a country store.

Andrew Johnson married "family," for his wife knew enough to teach him how to read.

John Kents was the son of a hostler and was born in a livery stable.

Rare Ben Jonson laid brick while he was learning Latin.

Napoleon Bonaparte once remarked, "I am my own ancestor."

Did you ever happen to hear who was the father of Homer or of Shakespeare or of Gladstone or of Soerates or of Walt Whitman?—Portland Oregonian.

#### Strange Siamese Custom.

They have a novel method in Siam of getting rid of the bodies of paupers and criminals. In one of the temples is kept a flock of a hundred vultures, and the bodies, instead of being buried or burned, are given to them as food. As soon as they catch sight of a body the rapacious creatures gather around it, and it only takes them a minute or two to pick all the flesh off it.

A repugnant sight it is, but, according to Siamese physicians, it is an excellent sanitary measure. The soil of Siam, they point out, is generally moist, and hence it is much better that bodies should be treated in this way than replaced in the ground, for, if buried, they would surely prove more or less of a menace to the public health.

After the vultures have finished their feast the skeletons are placed in wooden boxes and burned.

#### Two Curious Knives.

When Sheffield first became famous for its cutlery a peculiarly shaped knife, designed for a variety of uses, was made with great care and sent to the agent of the Cutler's company in London. On one of the blades was engraved the following challenge:

London, for thy life,  
Show me such another knife.

The London cutlers, to show that they were equal to their Sheffield brothers, made a knife with a single well tempered blade, the blade having a cavity containing a rye straw two and a half inches in length, wholly surrounded by the steel; yet, notwithstanding the fact that the blade was well tempered, the straw was not burned, singed or charred in the least! It is needless to add that the Sheffield cutlers acknowledged themselves outdone in ingenuity.

# Art Pictures FREE



THE DAILY PRESS has secured a large number of colored art engravings, which will be given to the readers of this paper. There are four pictures in the set, representing the seasons, Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring, on heavy enamel paper.

The only condition required to secure a set of these Art Pictures is that one month's subscription to the Daily Press be paid in advance. Old and new subscribers are entitled to these pictures on the above basis.

The DAILY PRESS is an up-to-date morning paper and the only paper on the Virginia Peninsula receiving the full Associated Press service.

The Price of the Daily Press For One Month is 50 Cents.

Upon receipt of 50 cents the pictures will be wrapped and mailed to out of town subscribers.

The pictures may be secured at 25 cents per set or 10 cents each.

#### NEW SUBSCRIBER

NAME.....

STREET.....

AMT.....

# Art Pictures FREE

#### DON'T BOLT YOUR FOOD.

There is Pleasure as Well as Health in Deliberate Eating.

Fast eating is sure to be injurious, because to properly prepare the food for digestion it must be thoroughly masticated.

Rapid eating is still worse when it is caused by the hurry of business or by anxiety or nervous irritability or by the common habit of "bolting" the food. Such eating is sure to produce indigestion or dyspepsia.

The teeth, as well as the stomach, are made for labor, and neither can have their proper work to do if only paps and broths and puddings and hashes and other soft and artificially prepared foods are crowded into the stomach as though the cook in the kitchen could masticate and digest the food better than the natural grinders and the chemical action and assimilating power of the stomach.

Those people who shovel great vulgar mouthfuls of food into their mouths and bolt it down as though they had but ten minutes for a meal are gourmandizers instead of polite people.

They know little of the pleasure of deliberate eating or the luxury of satisfying hunger, and certainly they are laying the foundation of disease.

Dry, hard food, vigorously chewed, stimulates the flow of saliva, strengthens the teeth and keeps them healthy and invigorates the digestion.

#### HE TOOK LONG CHANCES.

But the Tailor's Anxiety and Bill Were Both Finally Settled.

The doctor of an English regiment stationed in India received a letter from his tailor inclosing a long overdue account and concluding with a polite inquiry after the debtor's state of health. The sawbones replied thus:

"I have received your hypocritical letter hoping that I am in a good state of health. Hear, then, what your chances of my living long enough to be able to pay your bill are. I attend assiduously every cholera case in the camp, and I am making smallpox a special study. I swim every morning in a lake swarming with alligators. At a recent attack on a hill fort I went with the forlorn hope and was one of the three who returned unscathed. Tomorrow morning I shall go unaccompanied and on foot into the jungle and wait for the man eating tigers as he returns at dawn to her cave and cubs. If it be she who falls I shall spend my leave in the fever haunted jungle following up big game, and if I survive that I shall cool myself after its heat by joining a party to ascend the peak of Dhawalagiri, whose snow slopes and glaciers are as stiff as your prices."

The doctor eventually returned home in safety, and the tailor's anxiety and his bill were both settled.

#### OUR AIM.

is to extend to our depositors every courtesy and accommodation within range of prudent banking.

#### Citizens and Marine Bank



MARK TWAIN IN CHARACTERISTIC POSE. The famous humorist is reported to be slowly dying at his home in New Hampshire.